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- 27.—*The Causation and Prevention of Disease.* By JOHN PARKIN, M. D., late Medical Inspector for Cholera in the West Indies. London: John Churchill. 1859. 8vo. pp. 191.

It is impossible for one not professionally acquainted with its subject to do justice to this work, which is evidently the result of extensive research and profound thought, and which presents a large array of isolated facts, classified statistics, and tabular views. The author regards the malarious poison, which is the cause of numerous epidemics, as the result, not of chemical processes on the surface of the earth, but of volcanic action far beneath the surface. It is developed from low, marshy, and alluvial soil, because such soil is loosened and porous for a great depth, and thus gives free course to morbid exhalations from subterranean laboratories. It is not, however, developed from a surface permanently covered even with stagnant water, which presents an impassable barrier to such exhalations. Of course, the most obvious preventives of epidemic disease, are, in towns and cities, thorough drainage and paving; for individual dwellings, solid foundations and cellar-flooring; and for the open country, drainage, where practicable, and, under circumstances that do not admit of this, the permanent flooding of marshy districts. Where exposure is inevitable, the author regards carbonic acid, in whatever form it can best be made availing, as capable of neutralizing the malarious poison. The subject certainly claims the diligent attention of scientific men; and whatever may be thought of Dr. Parkin's theory, it is impossible that a work so full of carefully observed and analyzed facts should not throw important light on the causes and the preventives of infectious disease.

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- 28.—*Graham Lectures. Human Society: its Providential Structure, Relations, and Offices. Eight Lectures delivered at the Brooklyn Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y.* By F. D. HUNTINGTON, D. D. New York: Robert Carter and Brothers. 1860. 8vo. pp. 307.

HUMAN society exists, not in virtue of any organizing capacity in its founders or its lawgivers, but by divine appointment. It has its essential God-given constitution, conditions, and laws, and these manifest the same attributes of creative power, wisdom, and love which are displayed in the structure and movements of the physical universe. The relations and inevitable tendencies of society are favorable to the development of individual character and to the progress of the race, and are pre-eminently adapted to the reception, the propagation, and the

ultimate ascendancy of a Divine revelation. Society and Christianity in their mutual adaptation attest their common origin in the thought of God; and, made each for the other, they must be brought into an ever closer union, to result in the final establishment of the reign of Christ on the earth. These positions are demonstrated, defended, and enforced, in the lectures now before us, with an exuberance of historical illustration, with irresistible force of argument, and with the author's wonted fervor and eloquence of style. The volume, as a whole, presents a novel and fruitful department of natural theology, and at the same time has a direct and momentous bearing on the intrinsic grounds of the validity of the Christian revelation. While it is sound and impregnable in its reasoning, it is full of the glowing thought of a devout mind, and is no less adapted to the edification of those who need not to be convinced, than to the refutation of infidelity and scepticism.

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29.—*The Higher Christian Education.* By BENJAMIN W. DWIGHT, Author of "Modern Philology, its History, Discoveries, and Results." New York: A. S. Barnes and Burr. 1859. 12mo. pp. 347.

THIS is a noble work in its aim, its scope, and its execution. It presents education in its true province,—the culture of body, mind, and soul, every power, sentiment, and affection, every sense, faculty, and propensity, so as to make the human being a recipient of the Divine influence, a reflection of the Divine image, a facile instrument for working out the Divine purposes. In this light the grandeur of the teacher's office, the high self-culture, the thorough religious discipline which he needs, the zeal, patience, gentleness, and love which alone can fit him for his work, are vividly portrayed; and the contents of the phrase, "The True Christian Scholar," are exhibited with a fulness and fervor adapted to awaken a holy enthusiasm, to inspire the loftiest endeavor, and to lead the soul to that dependence on a higher power, which is the sole condition of its energy and its progress. The closing chapter exhibits the necessity of this Christian education for the people at large, as that which alone can make our schools and colleges the seminaries of sound and precious knowledge, and which alone can advance the true good of society, and extend to all the members of the body politic the privileges which are their right and the proffered gift of God. Our analysis is brief and imperfect; but we trust that it may commend the work to our readers. It ought to be in the hands of every teacher, and of every man, woman, and youth who is capable of appreciating what is meant by "the higher Christian education."